

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The below listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-29 (canceled)

Claim 30 (original): A blade for a hockey stick comprising:

an elongated member extending from a tip section to a heel section and having a front face and a back face;

the heel section comprising front-side and back-side facing surfaces that are recessed relative to adjacent portions of the front and back faces; and

the elongated member further comprising an inner foam core and one or more plies overlaying the inner foam core, wherein the one or more plies comprise substantially continuous fibers disposed within a matrix material.

Claim 31 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein at least part of one of the fibers is selected from the group consisting of carbon fiber, aramid, glass, polyethylene, ceramic, boron, quartz, and polyester.

Claim 32 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein at least part of one of the fibers is selected from the group consisting of carbon fiber, aramid, glass, polyethylene, and ceramic.

Claim 33 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein at least part of one of the fibers is selected from the group consisting of carbon fiber, aramid, and glass.

Claim 34 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein at least part of one of the fibers is selected from the group consisting of carbon fiber and aramid.

Claim 35 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein at least part of one of the fibers comprises carbon fiber.

Claim 36 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein the recessed front-side and back-side facing surfaces of the heel section are configured to be received in a mating portion of a shaft.

Claim 37 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein the recessed front-side and back-side facing surfaces of the heel section are configured to be received within a slot disposed within a shaft.

Claims 38-39 (canceled)

Claim 40 (original): The blade of claim 30 further comprising one or more internal bridge structures disposed within the foam core and extending between the front and back faces.

Claim 41 (never existed)

Claim 42 (currently amended): The blade of claim 41 40, wherein at least one of the one or more internal bridge structures comprises one or more plies of substantially continuous fibers disposed within a matrix material.

Claim 43 (currently amended): The blade of claim 41 40, wherein at least one of the one or more internal bridge structure comprises non-continuous fibers disposed within a matrix material.

Claim 44 (original): The blade of claim 30 further comprising one or more internal bridge structures disposed within the foam core and extending between the recessed front-side and back-side facing surfaces of the heel section.

Claim 45 (original): The blade of claim 30 further comprising one or more internal bridge structures disposed within the foam core and extending between the front and back faces of the blade and between the recessed front-side and back-side facing surfaces of the heel section.

Claim 46 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein the foam core further comprises a top edge and a bottom edge extending between the front face and back face of the blade, wherein at least part of the bottom edge or the top edge of the foam is overlaid with a durable edging material.

Claim 47 (original): The blade of claim 46, wherein at least part of both the top edge and bottom edge of the foam is overlaid with the durable edging material.

Claim 48 (original): The blade of claim 46, wherein the durable edging material is selected from the group of materials consisting of thermoplastic resins, thermosetting resins, substantially continuous fibers disposed within either thermoplastic or thermosetting resins, and non-continuous fibers disposed within either thermoplastic or thermosetting resins.

Claim 49 (original): The blade of claim 30, wherein the foam core comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, PVC, and epoxy.

Claims 50-107 (canceled)